In this Issue

She:kon Akwe:kon Akwesasro:non,

From my family to yours I hope that everyone had safe, enjoyable and prosperous holidays and that the New Year will be better than the last one. As we look forward to 2009, let's reflect on all the good things that happened in 2008.

Kanienkehaka Krunch Wins Rising Stars Championship

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> I Think, Therefore I Don't Idle Pages 12-13

The Tribe, with the tremendous efforts of our gaming establishments, provided a Senior and Low Income Home Heating Program with a total number of 442 homes participating in the program. In conjunction with the CITGO Program, the decision to heat your home or buy basic essentials was a little easier. The Tribe pledged \$1.2 million to offset the rising cost of home heating fuel with over 1,200 homes benefiting.

Another high point was Tribal Council's helping the Hogansburg Akwesasne Volunteer Fire Department purchase two new trucks vital to the safety of all Akwesasro:non. With our help, the Fire Department purchased a Tanker Truck with a 3,000 gallon capacity and a Rescue Pumper with a 1,000 gallon capacity. The previous equipment was old and outdated and these two new pieces of equipment could not have come at a better time. The day before the new equipment arrived, the old tanker had to be towed back to the shop and put out of commission.

The Tribe, with the help of its dedicated staff, Brian Herne, Charlie Dionne, Jim "McDuck" McDonald, Chris Herne and Glenn Hill braved the summer elements to bring the anticipated playground to Akwesasne. Along with the beautiful sports field, this should provide entertainment and exercise for all the kids of Akwesasne. Hopefully in the near future, we will add some new features to the Generations Recreation Park and have night soccer and field lacrosse as well as softball.

As we look ahead to 2009, let us all remember that you are responsible for making a difference in our community. I see good things happening all the time here in Akwesasne and if you don't always get the recognition you deserve, I say Niawenko:wa to all the people who strive to make Akwesasne a better place to live.

St. Regis Mohawk Tribal Sub-Chief

Ron LaFrance, Jr.



Human Services Division Celebrates Accomplishments

By Jeffrey C. Whelan, Division Director, DSS Commissioner



On January 16, 2009, Human Services held a staff appreciation day to recognize and celebrate the Division's 2008 accomplishments.

All of the Human Services Division's employees were honored with a Certificate of Excellence in an awards ceremony attended by Tribal Council and Administration.

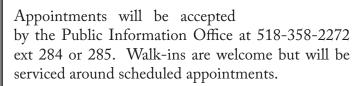
- Resource and Development
- Department of Social Services
- Preventive and Foster Carwe
- Child & Adult Protective Services
- Indian Child Welfare Act
- Akwesasne Group Home
- Intensive Preventive Program
- Disability Services Department
- Medicaid Service Coordination
- HCBS Waiver
- Supportive Apartments Program
- Pyke Road IRA
- High Street IRA
- Connor's Road IRA
- Adult recreation
- Childrens Recreation

U.S. Passport Clinic February 24, 2009 10 am to 3 pm Community Building



PASSPORT

Wanda Murtagh from the Franklin County Clerk's Office will be processing applications for new and renewal passport books and/or cards.



Application forms are available in the lobby of the Community Building. Additional information about acceptable documentation is available online at: www.travel.state.gov

What you need to apply:

- » Applicant must apply in person
- » Passport Application
- » Proof of U.S. Citizenship
- » Proof of Parents Citizenship
- » Proof of Identity
- » Photographs (2)
- » Application Fees:
- Passport Book:

Adults 16+: \$75, Children under 16: \$60

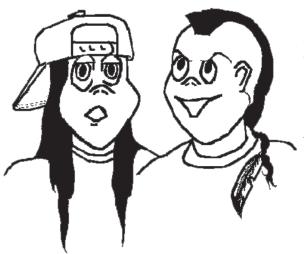
- Passport Card: Adults 16+: \$20, Children under 16: \$10
- Both Passport Book and Card:
 Adults 16+: \$95, Children under 16: \$70

Application fees are payable by cash, check or money order payable to *U.S. Department of State.* A \$25 execution fee is added to every application payable to *Franklin County Clerk.* Sorry no credit cards will be accepted.

"John Denver Look-Alike" to Visit You

By Laura Weber

Did you ever want to meet John Denver? If so, we have some good news for you: the Tribe's solid waste program "John Denver look-alike", Peter Terrance, will be making visits to people's homes beginning in Enniska/February. You may remember that Peter made his debut as the "John Denver look-alike" in the Seskeha/ August 2008 edition of SRMT Kawenniios.



using. The information will be compared to 1995 survey results that were collected through a similar study to determine any changes. Peter will also be able to answer your questions about the solid waste services offered by the Tribe and leave you with a packet of information to help assist you in making decisions regarding disposal of your solid wastes.

Peter won't be coming with guitar in hand and sing you songs, and it is a good thing because we're not sure about his musical talents. He will, though, have a questionnaire that he'll use to collect information about the solid waste disposal practices that you are

Peter's goal is to visit 100 residents and all of the businesses on the south side of Akwesasne. He will be making random stops at people's homes. If you would like to have him stop at your house, please call the Environment Division (358-5937) to schedule an appointment with him.

PRESS RELEASE: Tsiothorko:wa/January 8, 2009

ELECTION BOARD CERTIFIES REFERENDUM RESULTS

National Grid Agreement Approved

On December 30th, St. Regis Mohawk Tribal Election Board certified the referendum held on Saturday December 13, 2008. The certification was delayed due to an appeal, contending that an insufficient number of public meetings had been held prior to the referendum. In a letter dated December 30, 2008, the Election Board responded to the appeal, upholding the validity of the referendum. After careful review of the record, the Election Board determined that the provision was met which requires three public meetings to be held prior to a referendum vote.

The referendum was held to approve two agreements with National Grid: a Service Agreement for National Grid to continue providing service to the Akwesasne Community and a Franchise Agreement which spells out the terms under which the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe could possibly exit National Grid, should the tribe decide to do so. Although voter turnout was light, the measure was approved, with 63 votes for, 29 votes against and with two ballots void.

RISING STARS DIVISION NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RECAP - DICK'S SPORTING GOODS TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS '09

By Josh Gross, NDP Lacrosse

In a national championship tournament, it's rare for one team to be head-and-shoulders above the competition. But in the rising stars division of the Dick's Sporting Goods Tournament of Champions, the Kanienkehaka Krunch was just that. Promising "Krunch Time" on the Lacrosse Forums message board, the team from the Akwesasne Mohawk Nation certainly delivered.

Heading into the rising stars division Toyota Championship Bracket, the Krunch had won every one of its games by double-digits, just as it had in the Beach Blast fall qualifier. And once the playoffs began, it was business as usual for the Garrett Cree-coached team.

A 14-3 victory over the Connecticut Cardinals in the quarterfinals was followed by a 17-2 win over the Tampa Tribe, last year's rising stars division runner-up.

On the opposite side of the bracket, the Copperheads (Ga.) defeated Black Dog Lacrosse (British Columbia), 9-4 in the first round. Meanwhile, Team Georgia knocked off the Chicago Select All-Stars, 11-3, setting up an inner-state semifinal match-up between the Copperheads and Team Georgia.

In a tightly-contested Sunday morning game, the Copperheads prevailed, 6-4, behind

a balanced scoring attack. Sophomore attackman led his team with two goals in the semifinal, while sophomore attackmen Jonathan DeBole and Michael Thomas and junior midfielders John Avent and Josh Roche chipped in one goal apiece. Team Georgia sophomore attackman Nathan Bohnhoff and junior midfielder William Waters each scored twice in the loss.



Crowds gathered at Toyota Championship Field 2 to watch the rising stars national championship, and to see if the Copperheads had what it takes to beat the seemingly unstoppable Krunch.

And in "Krunch Time," the favorites saved their best for last. A 19-4 victory by the Krunch

put an exclamation point on the Krunch's impressive run through the bracket. Goal scorers for the national champions included junior Miles Thompson (4 goals, 2 assists), junior Hank Delisle (4g, 1a), freshman Seth Oakes (4g, 1a), sophomore Lyle Thompson (2g, 3a), and freshmen Zachary Hopps (2), Ky Tarbell (1), Austin Cavendar (1), and Takokwirishon Goodleaf (1). Sophomores Cameron Simpson and Randal Seymour assisted on two of the team's goals.

For the Copperheads, Thomas was the lone multi-goal scorer with two, while





sophomores Scotty Smith (attack) and Tyler Botts (midfielder) scored one each.

With the victory, the Krunch earned an automatic bid to next year's Dick's Sporting Goods Tournament of Champions. The Krunch have the option to defend its rising stars title or to move up to the elite division. It is expected that the Krunch will compete in the elite division, although the team's final plans have yet to be revealed.

The Players:

Kanatiio Adams

Ratsienhaiens Adams Trey Adams Andrew Bomberry Austin Cavendar (Onondaga) Kevin Davey (Six Nations) Hank Delisle Takokwirishon Goodleaf Derek Hopps Zach Hopps Stuart Martin (Six Nations) Seth Oakes Johnny Powless (Six Nations) Darrell Robertson (Six Nations) Randall Seymour Cameron Simpson (Onondaga) Lucas Smith (Six Nations) Korin Sunday Ky Tarbell **Tevin Terrance** Nolan Thomas Lyle Thompson (Onondaga) Miles Thompson (Onondaga)

Coach: Garrett Cree

Team Manager: Shari Adams



Current postings and complete job descriptions are available online at: www.srmt-nsn.gov



ON THE ROAD



Chief Jim Ransom attended the 13th annual U.S. EPA, Region 2 Indian Leaders Meeting in Syracuse, New York.

See story page 9.

SRMT KAWENNÌ:105



David Trout Staddon - Editor Aimée Benedict-Debo - Publications Manager Adrianne Jacobs - Photographer "Good Words"

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NEW FACES

Valerie Barse

Michael A. Benedict, Jr.

Michelle Benedict

Jaime Garrow

Vicky Herne

Kristen Jacobs

Tiffany Leabo

Michele F. Mitchell

Samantha Phillips

Renee Roundpoint-Adams

Kawisiiostha Sharrow

Decota Thompson

AC/DP

Tribal Police

Akwesasne Group Home

Early Childhood Devel

Administration

Tribal Police

IHS - AC/DP

Legal

JTPA

Accounting

Early Childhood Devel

Tribal Police

Counselor - Training

Officer

Admin Assistant

Teacher Aide

Procurement Officer

Officer

Prevention Educator

General Counsel

Admin Assistant

Bookkeeper

Teacher Aide

Officer

CALENDAR



7th - Tribal Monthly Meeting - 10 am - Community Building

10th - Social Security Administration - 1:30 to 3:30 pm - Tribal Clerk's Office

16th - President's Day - Tribal offices closed, transfer station open

24th - U.S. Passport Clinic - 10 am to 3 pm - Community Building





Funeral Donations - 3 recipients

Medical Assistance - 1 recipient

Sports Teams - 3 recipients

\$ 1,500.00

500.00

2,000.00

St. Regis Mohawk Women, Infants, and Children (W.I.C.) Program



What is W.I.C?

WIC is a supplemental food and nutrition program for Women, Infants, and Children.

Participants receive: supplemental foods at no cost; and free nutrition counseling / education, breastfeeding support, immunization screening and referrals to health care providers.

Who is eligible?

Women who are pregnant, breastfeeding or have just had a baby, or have children up to the age of 5, who: have incomes up to 185% of federal poverty level and have medical or nutritional risks; and live in New York State. If an infant has a Medicaid card they automatically qualify. We serve Akwesasne and the surrounding areas in Franklin and St. Lawrence Counties.

Why Participate?

- WIC helps feed children right during the most critical periods of growth and development
- Promotes healthy family eating habits
- Increases birth weight and improves prenatal health outcomes
- Increases breastfeeding and duration
- Decreases early childhood anemia
- Improves children's vocabulary test scores and digit memory test scores

Where is WIC located?

- In the Outreach/Nutrition department at Health Services
- Phone # 358-3141 ext 131,133.
- Hours for WIC clinics, Wednesday 9-5, Thursday 10-6

What services does WIC offer?

- Individual nutrition education to parents and caretakers
- Nutrition education material
- An assessment of nutritional risk at the first visit
- Supplemental foods
- Who?
- WIC Coordinator-Kim McElwain MA
- WIC Clerk-Krystal Peters

2008 Mountain of Toys



















Indian Nations Meet in Syracuse

By Les Benedict, Assistant Director - Environment Division

The week of December 1-4, 2008, Indian Nations from across the Northeast convened in Syracuse, NY to participate in a joint meeting between the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society (NAFWS) Northeast Region and USEPA Region 1 and Region 2 Indian Nations. This was the first joint meeting of this kind.

Region 1 Indian Nations are represented by the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation, Mohegan Tribe, Aroostook Band of Micmacs, Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, Passamaquoddy Tribe of Indians - Indian Township Reservation, Passamaquoddy Tribe of Indians - Pleasant Point Reservation, Penobscot Indian Nation, Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council, Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah), and Narragansett Indian Tribe.

Region 2 Indian Nations consist of the Cayuga Nation, Oneida Indian Nation, Onondaga Nation, St. Regis Mohawk Tribe, Seneca Nation

of Indians, Tonawanda Band of Senecas, and Tuscarora Nation.

The NAFWS Northeast Region overlaps into the territories of all these nations as well. The NAFWS conference provided a forum for presentations by Indian Nations on natural resource management projects they are working on including the Penobscot Indian Nation dam removal project in Maine and our own Black Ash Restoration project.

Invited agencies participating in the conference included the US Fish and Wildlife Society, USDA-Animal Plant and Health Inspection Service, University of Maine, and USEPA. The presentations included discussion on Avian Flu monitoring and training, control of invasive insect species threatening trees, climate change impacts to tribal resources, stream restoration and habitat restoration and Eagle take permitting.

The joint meeting was followed by a Regional meeting between the Region 2 Indian nations and USEPA high level managers. An important action item that had been tabled for several years was to be able to meet with the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) commissioner. Upon formal request by USEPA Mr. Pete Grannis, Commissioner, NYSDEC met with the Indian Nations and USEPA. The highlight of the meeting was the unveiling of NYSDEC Policy on

Indian Nation Consultation.
The policy provides guidance to NYSDEC staff concerning cooperation and consultation with Indian Nations relating to protection of environmental and cultural resources within New York State.

These types of conferences are valuable for exchanging information and ideas on natural resource protection, habitat restoration, funding and policies.





Official Tribal Monthly Meeting January 10, 2009

Chaired by Chief Barbara Lazore

- 1. Opening Greetings
- Reading of Action item(s) from last meeting
 Financial Handouts
- 3. Casino Expansion Innovation Development
- 4. IGA Update Sub-Chief Ron LaFrance
- 5. National Grid Next Steps Chief Jim Ransom
- 6. New Business 2009 Budget Meeting
- 7. Review of Action Items Tribal Clerk
- 8. Closing Adjournment

Action items:

- 1. To have the monthly meeting minutes available for community members 10 days prior to the next monthly meeting upon request.
- 2. Look into Andre's concerns regarding the bidding process at the casino expansion.
- 3. Can we set up a meeting to look into the convenience stores buying from IGA.
- 4. To look into better facilities for the Bingo Palace to better accommodate non-smoker, diabetics and elders.
- 5. Issue a press release re: the comprehensive survey done back in August for next month's meeting.
- 6. To find out why border patrol has attended calls with tribal police.
- 7. Invite Andy Thomas to attend February 2009 monthly meeting to answer questions and concerns from community members.

Action Item Follow-Up from December Tribal Meeting

Provide Native employee numbers for the First Americans IGA. Jason Hoxie at the IGA reports that there are:

40 full-time employees at IGA and six are Native; 21 part-time employees and five are Native; Management has nine employees and two are Native.

Have the legal department provide tax information on the First Americans IGA parcel. This information was handed out at the January 10th tribal meeting.

Conduct some research to determine if the town of Bombay has been receiving money for the right-of-way on the Reservation from National Grid (Niagara Mohawk) from 1949-2008. The Tribe's legal department has a consultant working on whether of not Bombay has included the reservation in its tax assessment to National Grid. If it has, we will find out the amount of money assessed for the reservation lands to determine if we have a claim against Bombay and what the legal obstacles would be to file a claim i.e. statute of limitations, etc.

Provide a more detailed budget before the budget meeting is held. A more detailed 2009 budget will be made available prior to the budget meeting which will be scheduled for late January 2009.

Provide financial reports at Tribal meetings. The Chief Finance Officer states that it was previously decided to provide quarterly financial handouts. At the February 2009 Tribal meeting finance handouts will be available.

Work with the Department of Transportation on the Mohawk Council signs as they hinder traffic. The Tribe's Planning and Infrastructure will be meeting with MCA to discuss moving the billboard back a few feet.

Schedule a meeting with MCA to discuss border issues. A brief update on the meeting was provided on the January 10th tribal meeting.

Enforce the littering law. The Solid Waste Ordinance allows the Tribe to enforce littering violations. Environment is also working on an anti-littering campaign.

I Think, Therefore I Don't Idle

By Angela Benedict-Dunn

his month's article is on something that at one point or another we all do. Some of us do it more than others. Some states (about 20) have laws limiting this. I have seen it done at the IGA, post office, at the clinic and gas stations.

hat is it? Letting your car idle while you just "run in for a minute". Well I am guilty also. I have done that many times but now that I have more information on the effects of idling not just on the car itself and the environment but on the people around. Now I try not to idle but we all make mistakes and sometimes I do but I am lucky to have a sibling who reminds me if I do.

ow the facts on idling: NYS does have an idling law that pertains to buses and diesel trucks. They are not supposed to idle more than 15 minutes unless they are stopped in traffic or it is less than 20°F or to operate chair lifts or defrost a window for visibility. I also found out that Canada has laws about idling. In 2005-2006 there were over 200 communities running anti-idling campaigns across Canada.

Another fact is it wastes money by wasting gas. By eliminating 5 minutes of idling you will save ½ cup of gasoline a day which turns out to be about 10 gallons a year which doesn't sound like a lot when the gas is \$1.69 but what about when it gets to be over \$3.00 again it could mean buying extra radio bingo cards for extra chances to win when the jackpot is over \$10,000.

It also saves the planet by eliminating the release of around 220 pounds of carbon dioxide which is a greenhouse gas. The 220 pounds is per person so if we add up all the cars in Akwesasne that idle, at least 10,000, we could say if everyone eliminates voluntary idling, we are not releasing over 2.2 million pounds of carbon dioxide. If it looks like you will be idling for longer than 10 seconds, turn off the engine and restart when you are ready to drive. Idling is bad for your engine and for your car's mileage.

Sometime this year the Air Quality Program will be motivating by incentive for anti-idling sponsored by a grant from the USEPA on educating and reducing mobile source emissions. Incentives will be gifts for not idling and some type of "tickets" (not real) will be issued for people found idling. The details are still in the works.

So there are the facts. Being idle free is something we can all do and it doesn't cost a cent. So next time you are running around stopping here and there picking the kids up and dropping the kids off remember to shut off your vehicle if you are going to be stopped for more than 10 seconds. And don't do it for me, do it for the next seven generations.





Idling longer than 5 minutes before starting on your way is better for the engine. Excessive idling increases engine wear and wastes fuel.

Idling is necessary
to keep it comfortable
for the kids. Kids and adults
get in the car with jackets on or are
bundled up for outside temperatures.
The car will have warmed up or
cooled down before they get too
cold or hot.

better when it is warmed up before driving. Actually cars run better and reach running temperature faster when driven. The exception is when the temperature is less than 20°F then the warm-up should be minimal.

Mythbusters

and over puts wear and tear on your vehicle. Actually leaving it idling puts more wear and tear on the engine. Older cars like those back in the 70's had different ignitions and could break from restarting several times. But these days the ignitions are set up electronically and are not affected by restarting.

Starting your car over

Let us give thanks to the winds of the earth. From the four directions they come, carrying the rains upon their back, and bringing change to the weather and the seasons. They deliver our words, and can be gentle as a whisper, or have the power of a hurricane. The winds fill us, and connect us to all life, and are the breath of the ancestors of life. The winds are the sacred breath of the Creator. Let us acknowledge the winds. So be it in your mind. Now our minds are as one.

The idea of this column is to promote clean air practices in each of our homes, in our personal behaviors throughout each day, in line with our Mohawk cultural value system. In no way is this column meant to be an indictment of anything that you choose to do. Instead, this is in place as a simple thought-provoking tool, to reveal some good ideas and some interesting notions.

Please present any comments, complaints, or questions to Angela Benedict-Dunn, Air Quality Manager or Ken Jock, Environment Division Director. We welcome your thoughts and opinions.

SUNDANCE SALON AND SPA

Everyone wants to look their best and the professional staff of Sundance Salon and Spa, located at the Kanienkehaka Plaza in Akwesasne, is there to assist you with a full line of services.

Sundance Salon and Spa has several hair stylists on staff. They also offer other services including acrylic nails, manicures, pedicures, tanning, massage and waxing

"We're excited to serve the community of Akwesasne. We hope to make this your 'salon and spa of Choice' and welcome any comments or feedback from our customers as to how we can improve our services or if there is some service that you would like us to add," stated Melinda Walk, owner and operator.

They have hired Wayne Allen as the Salon Manager. He is originally from Rochester and was trained by Paul Mitchell educators. He is professionally trained and will work to establish Sundance Salon and Spa as a Paul Mitchell Signature Salon.

"Wayne will be introducing new products in response to our clients' needs. Our salon will be offering Paul Mitchell's full line of products for use and resale as well as becoming a center for training people in our area on new upcoming color, cut and styling techniques," said Melinda.

"We're very pleased to represent the business community of Akwesasne. This is your salon and we're here to service you," said Wayne Allen, Salon Manager.

For more information, please contact:

Sundance Salon and Spa Kanienkehaka Plaza, Route 37, Akwesasne

518-358-2699



BUSINESS FEATURE

By Steven B. Cook, Director of Economic Development

The big date for TV stations to switch from an analog to digital signal is nearing. If you watch local channels through an antenna or rabbit ears, check to make sure your TV has a digital tuner. Most TVs purchased in the U.S. from May 2007 to the present have a digital tuner. To find out if your TV has a built-in digital tuner, check the owner's manual or the TV itself for one of these labels:

• integrated digital tuner - digital receiver - digital tuner - DTV - HDTV - ATSC

The following labels are **not** indicators of a built-in digital tuner:

 digital ready – digital monitor – HDTV monitor – HDTV ready

FEBRUARY 17, 2009 ARE YOU READY? If your TV has an analog tuner it will require a digital-to-analog converter box. They are available at many area retail stores and cost between \$40 and \$70. To check on a government issued \$40 coupon or for more info on the transition, check online at: www.DTV2009.gov.

If you already receive your TV programming through a satellite or cable, you're all set for the transition.

- WPTZ Channel 5 and WPBS Watertown broadcast in analog over-the-air and digital on cable/satellite.
- CJOH Ottawa Channel 8 presently broadcasts in analog. Canadian TV stations will be switching to digital on August 31, 2011.

By Aimee Benedict-Debo, Publications Manager

The St. Regis Mohawk Tribe, Environment Division is pleased to announce that Jessica Cree-Alvarez has taken the position of Environmental Compliance Inspector. Her role as an Inspector will be to provide the community with assistance in achieving a clean and healthy environment.

Ms. Cree-Alvarez has served in previous capacities with the Tribe in the Compliance Office, Tribal Courts, Tribal Council office and gaming. She most recently completed the Integrated Resources Management

Plan (IRMP) project for the Environment Division. Please join the Environment Division in welcoming her to her new role.

If you would like to learn more about environmental compliance you may contact Ms. Cree-Alvarez at (518) 358-5937.

WELCOME

Tobs are presently available for Akwesasne, the surrounding region, and as far as Syracuse.

We strongly encourage any Akwesasronon interested in obtaining full time or part time work to apply to the US Census Department's Boston Regional Office. This is a great opportunity to find some extra work locally and throughout our upstate New York region.

For those that already have full time jobs, this is an opportunity to supplement your existing income with some extra cash and for our own people to have a hand in the process leading up to the 2010 local count.

For information on the benefits of working for the U.S. Census or to access an updated jobs listing and attached descriptions, please access the following website address:

http//: www.uscensus.gov/2010censusjobs/

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to call 877-355-6188 and ask for Cesar Monzon, US Census Bureau Partnership Coordinator, Boston Regional Census Center.

U.S. CENSUS JOBS



Are you puzzled by the tax law and which credits and deductions you can take? Free tax help is available through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program sponsored by the

Akwesasne Housing Authority in Akwesasne.

Help with basic income tax returns will be offered January 12 through April 15, 2009 at the Akwesasne Housing Authority by trained and certified community Volunteer Tax Assistors.

VITA Program offers free assistance to those with low-to-moderate incomes, including persons with disabilities, and older taxpayers who file Form 1040EZ,

Form1040A, or basic 1040 Federal tax returns. Our Volunteer Tax Assistors also assist community members in claiming any special credits and deductions for which they may be eligible.

Community members who visit a Volunteer Tax Site should bring this year's tax package, wage and earnings statement (Form W-2) from all employers, interest statements from banks (Form 1099), a copy of last year's tax return if available, and other relevant information about income and expenses. Volunteer Tax Assistors must complete an IRS training and certification course in basic income tax return preparation before they can assist customers.

If your family income is less than \$41,646.00 and you would like to take advantage of this valuable service call 358-9020 to schedule an appointment.

TAX ASSISTANCE

Attention Artists and Artisans

The Massena Artist's Association calls for artists to participate in its 24th Annual Juried Art Exhibit. The exhibit will be held from February 10th through February 27th, 2009 at the Massena Public Library.

All professional and amateur artists, living within a 100 mile radius of Massena are invited to submit their work to this exhibit. Young people and Canadian artists are also encouraged to submit entries. Artists may submit either one or two entries. Work may be on any subject, but should have been completed within the last three years. All entries must be the artist's original work.

The exhibit is open to all media including oil and acrylic painting, watercolor, pastel, drawing, mixed media, sculpture and photography. Submissions must be accompanied by a \$15.00 entry fee (American funds) for either one or two pieces.

For more information or for application forms, contact Lindsay Tarbell, SRMT Economic Development at 518-358-2272 ext. 168, Association President Dorothy Badger at 315-769-5571 or Association Treasurer Cecilia Dewey at 315-769-6210.

St. Regis Mohawk Tribe 412 State Route 37 Akwesasne, NY 13655

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